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Bangalore Mirror

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Grand lake revival plans welcome, but environmentalists have a few gentle reminders: rejuvenation is not making new structures, maintenance is not sweeping paths...

ECO CHAMBER

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During his Independence Day speech on Tuesday, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that the government would soon come up with a Rs 3,400-crore action plan to preserve and revive lakes in Karnataka.

City-based ecologists and lake conservationists say, while it is a welcome move if implemented, the plan must consider ecological, hydrological, and remediation aspects of lake rejuvenation, in addition to recreation services.

They say all attempts to restore degraded lakes in the past have been futile as the ecological aspect was given the least importance. Restoration efforts should

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

Shocker below

BESCOM refuses to hear citizens' cry for help to remove high-tension wire from manhole

CITY PAGE 3

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Viral evolution continues...

City docs say subvariant of Omicron, Eris, is more transmissible than its predecessors; however, it is not considered to pose any public health risk

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PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY
According to experts, the extent of the increased transmission is still unclear

Amid the global news of a new covid sub-variant, city doctors reassure that there is currently no need for worry. A novel subvariant of the Omicron variant, designated as EG.5.1, has emerged. It exhibits heightened transmissibility but a decreased likelihood of exacerbating covid infections, contrasting with earlier variants that led to increased ICU admissions and fatalities. In response to the global increase in cases, the World Health Organisation (WHO) officially categorised EG.5.1, known as Eris, as a 'variant of interest' recently. This subvariant was initially documented on February 17.

Dr Rajath Athreya, Senior Consultant and HOD Paediatrics and Neonatology, Sakra World Hospital, told BM that this subvariant is increasingly being reported in some countries like China, Korea, and Japan.

"Symptoms and hospitalisation rates are not significantly different in most countries reporting them. As of now, this variant is not considered to pose any additional public health risk relative to the current ongoing covid burden in the community, which is already very low. So, there is no cause for concern. It is important to note that the SARS COV2 virus will continue to evolve, and we will monitor new variants for any additional risks they may pose," he said.

Furthermore, Dr Aditya Chowti, Senior Consultant, Internal Medicine, Fortis Hospital, Cunningham Road, said that initially identified in China in February 2023, it has now spread to over 50 nations.

"Although data on Eris' severity is limited, early research suggests a higher likelihood of hospitalisations than earlier Omicron sub variants, requiring further investigation for confirmation. While Eris is likely more transmissible than its predecessors, the extent of this increased transmission is still unclear. WHO recommends applying the same preventive measures against Eris as for other covid-19 variants: vaccination, boosters, and indoor mask usage," he explained.

> **"Symptoms and hospitalisation rates are not significantly different in most countries reporting them**
> – Dr Rajath Athreya, Senior Consultant

Staying informed and following local health authority advice is crucial. While the level of concern for the Eris strain remains uncertain, WHO's classification as a variant of interest underscores its significance. Vigilance through precautions and staying updated is vital, he added.

Currently, the covid situation in the city appears to be at its lowest. A month-by-month comparison of covid cases in 2023 reveals the following trends: In January, there were 694 reported cases with no deaths. February witnessed a slightly lower number of cases, with 636 reported and no deaths. The numbers started to rise in March, reaching 2,122 cases, accompanied by five deaths. April saw a significant increase in cases, with 5,333 reported and one death. May experienced a slight decrease compared to April, with 1,141 cases and three deaths, while June reported just 134 cases and zero deaths.

In July, 52 covid cases were reported, and as of August so far, 22 cases have been reported with zero deaths. Moreover, there have been no hospitalisations in Bengaluru.

While EG.5.1 could contribute to a surge in cases, the WHO affirmed that it poses a minor threat to public health compared to other offspring of the Omicron lineage, given the absence of evidence indicating a more severe illness. Doctors say that EG.5.1 has likely undergone adaptations to enhance transmissibility relative to its predecessors, as indicated by its prevalence. However, widespread immunity resulting from a combination of vaccinations and previous infections should provide protection.

The WHO, in its risk assessment, stated, "Available evidence does not collectively suggest that EG.5.1 presents additional public health risks compared to other currently circulating omicron sublineages."

So far, the symptoms attributed to EG.5.1 include a sore throat, runny nose, cough, upper respiratory infection symptoms.

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Sun is shining

Attend a tribute evening to celebrate the life and work of Bob Marley as some of Bengaluru's most popular musicians come together to celebrate the work of the Jamaican singer. Marley, considered one of the pioneers of reggae, was known for his distinctive vocal and songwriting style.
Where: Urban Solace;
When: Friday, August 18; 7 pm to 9 pm

02 Jazz it

Jazz/experimental pianist and music composer, Frijo Francis, a visionary artiste is all set to perform this weekend. Known for his unique musical expression, the artist pushes the boundaries of traditional jazz and experimental music, creating a fusion that defies categorisation.
Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: Friday and Saturday, August 18 and 19; 9:30 pm onwards

03 Art attack

GoCoop is hosting 'Go Swadeshi', a handloom exhibition that showcases a wide range of authentic handloom sarees, fabrics, dress materials, stoles, dupattas, menswear, home decor, and more. The event aims to support artisans and weavers from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.
Where: Shilpakala Kalyana Mandapa, Phase 3, JP Nagar, Bannerghatta Road
When: until August 20; 11 am to 8 pm

Change of Name

I Banu Prathap S/o K.B.gowda R/a Muniyanapalya Village, Hamlet of Kithnamangala, Kasaba hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumakuru District, stating that my name mentioned as Banu Prathap in all documents. I believed Horoscope and Numerology, accordingly i am changing my name from Banu Prathap to Banu Pratap. Above mentioned Banu Prathap & Banu Pratap both the names are mine only. But hereinafter I will henceforth deal with the name (correct spelling) **Banu Pratap**. Therefore, i have sworn before Notary and Advocate D.S.Chandra Shekar, Kunigal vide affidavit dated 01. 08.2023.

Explore the world of Van Gogh

Van Gogh 360, an immersive experience featuring the works of Vincent Van Gogh, one of the most famous and influential figures in the history of western art, is now being held in Bengaluru. After being appreciated by audiences in Delhi and Mumbai, the exhibition is set to take place until September 3 in the city.

Van Gogh 360 is a first-of-its kind exhibition held in the country, where art and technology come together to form a dream world of the Dutch painter's life. Attendees will get to witness projections achieved through dozens of projectors and high-powered computer servers that deliver compelling images, animating Van Gogh's oeuvre. The multimedia exhibit hopes to take the attendee into a three-dimensional world that interacts with all senses. Abdul Razaq, who recently attended the exhibition, said that it was a different experience from conventionally held art shows. "The exhibition was slightly crowded, and arrangements for seating weren't plentiful. However, one can get a seat on the floor and watch the works of Van Gogh come together on the screens around them," he said.

Another attendee, Radhika, said that the education room, where boards provide a glimpse of Van Gogh's personal life, his struggle with mental problems, is informative.

Rama, a mother of two, said that the exhibition is a delightful experience for children, as they get to move around freely and watch the colours come together. From the Starry Night to Almond Blossom and many of his self-portraits, Van Gogh 360 displays over 300 of his best works. **— BMB**

Volt jolt: Shocking revelation from beneath

After spotting live 11KV line inside manhole, Banashankari 6th Stage residents ask BESCOM to act, but no action was taken

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Tension gripped Banashankari 6th stage T block when residents spotted a live 11KV line passing through a manhole. It came to notice when the manhole was choked and started to overflow; when the cover was moved, the electric line was spotted.

The residents immediately contacted the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) for assistance. However, even 10 days after receiving the complaint, nobody came to inspect the spot, let alone do anything about it.

Residents narrated the sequence of events. When the overflowing manhole caused water logging on the streets, the residents had contacted the Bangalore Water Supply Sewerage Board (BWSSB) officials to solve the issue. Srivatsa, a resident of Banashankari, said, "It was observed that one of the reasons that led to the clogging of the manhole was due to the 11kV line underneath. Upon closer inspection, it was revealed that the manhole's deterioration had allowed dirt and debris to infiltrate, causing a blockage that obstructed the flow of water. It was very shocking for us to see live electric lines passing under the manhole."

Residents of Banashankari 6th Stage raised money through crowdfunding and covered and cemented the manhole cover themselves

He said this was unsafe and so they alerted BESCOM to put the power line off while BWSSB officials would carry out the work. "But no action was taken," he said.

The residents also urged officials to inspect the spot and to remove the lines, but that too was not done. "It's been 10 days since we highlighted the issue to the officials. The electric lines cannot be allowed to pass under a manhole as it is extremely dangerous. If the manhole is being cleaned anybody can come in contact with the wire and can even get an electric shock. When we reported the issue on BESCOM helpline 1912, they responded saying the issue was addressed but in reality it was not even checked," said Srivatsa.

As for several days the manhole was kept open, the residents then decided to cover it up using their own funds for the safety of citizens.

Through crowdfunding, they raised Rs 10,000, hired a labourer and got the manhole covered and cementing done across so that no accidents take place.

Srivatsa said, "We are calling upon officials to do a thorough investigation by authorities, visit the site and take appropriate action to prevent future incidents."

Another resident of the area said the lack of swift action was distressing. "We are living with this potential danger right under our feet. It's imperative that officials prioritise our safety and take decisive steps to mitigate such risks."

'LGBT community members should be treated with love like everyone else'

Dismissing a petition challenging the filing of a criminal case for alleged abetment to suicide of a person of the LGBT community, the High Court of Karnataka said that everyone, including the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and other sexual orientations and genders), should be treated with love and care so that lives are not lost.

"The deceased in the case at hand is the one belonging to the LGBT community. The sensitivity of them being ostracised pervades their psyche. Therefore, such people must be treated with all love and affection... If every citizen would treat such citizens with all love and care, as is done to a normal human, precious lives would not be lost," Justice M Nagaprasanna said in his judgment.

Three colleagues of the deceased had approached the high court after the Whitefield police registered a case of abetment to suicide against them.

The father of the deceased, who is from Uttar Pradesh, had complained that the three had constantly harassed his son for his sexual orientation, leading him to commit suicide. Among the accused, one is from Bengaluru, while the second and third accused are from Uttar Pradesh. All of them were colleagues in a company in Bengaluru.

The deceased person had worked in the company from 2014 to 2016. He rejoined the same company in 2022 as manager of visual merchandising.

It is alleged that his colleagues were "putting him down by cracking unsavoury jokes. All the team members are said to have teased the deceased on his sexual orientation." He resigned on February 28 but later withdrew his resignation. Allegedly he was given a position that he was not comfortable with.

He then complained to the Internal Complaints Committee constituted under the Sexual Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act. He also registered a complaint under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. He also approached the Assistant Commissioner of Police alleging harassment by the three colleagues.

The victim committed suicide on June 3, 2023.

His father registered a complaint the following day after which the accused filed a petition in the high court.

The Court in its judgment said, "Unfortunately, the precious life of a youth is lost in the case at hand, all for the prima facie allegations of pointing at sexual orientation of the deceased. Therefore, it is for every citizen to bear this in mind while interacting with sensitive people. It is necessary that every one of us introspects on this issue. After all, everyone of them is a human being and all are worthy of equality."

The HC also noted that the investigation is still in progress. "It is barely three days after registration of the FIR that the present petition is filed and, today, it is barely 49 days of registration of the FIR. The investigation is still in progress. It is not a case where there is no prima facie material or the allegations are made out of thin air," the HC said in its recent judgment.

Refusing to interfere in the criminal proceedings, the HC dismissed the petition saying, "Cases which involve death of a person and the accused are guilty of abetment to suicide of the said victim will have to be considered owing to the facts of each case. There cannot be any particular parameter, yardstick, or theorem for interference, particularly in cases of abetment to suicide." **PTI**

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Easing flyover snags

Experts suggest ideas to fix Manjunath Nagar flyover soon

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Experts have advised the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to address issues with the Manjunath Nagar flyover, which has been under scrutiny for some time. The civic agency had previously sought an expert report from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) regarding the project, and the experts have now submitted their findings.

According to an expert from the Indian Institute of Science, the Manjunath Nagar flyover is a distinctive structure consisting of two merging flyovers constructed at a height of 18 meters. "The original plan involved constructing the flyover in three stages, but concretisation has only been completed in one stage at the reinforcement walls. Due to the height of the structure, the provision of a mobile crane for support is necessary, which has not been provided. It is imperative to provide adequate support for this structure. Our recommendation is to complete the concretisation process in two stages, starting with the initial stage and proceeding to the second stage once stability is achieved. We want to emphasise that despite allegations questioning the project's quality, there has been no compromises made in terms of quality assurance," the expert said.

BM story on 6th May about IISc conducting structural stability of Manjunatha Nagar flyover

KAUSHIK JN

The construction of Manjunath Nagar Flyover was completed in 2018. However, issues of bulging have been observed on the Reinforced Earth Wall and technical team recommended installing nails

The construction of the Manjunath Nagar flyover commenced on March 14, 2016, and was completed on August 27, 2018. However, issues of bulging have been observed on the Reinforced Earth Wall (RE Wall) of the flyover. To prevent further bulging, the technical team recommended installing nails for 52 RE walls.

Previously, a team of engineers from Bangalore University conducted an extensive study and submitted a report to the BBMP on February 15, 2022. The report highlighted that bulging was observed in the RE panels due to the verticality of the structure. To reinforce the panels, 12-foot-long iron pipes were installed. Despite the findings in the BU report, the BBMP sought feedback from the Indian Institute of Science and sent a letter to the institute. However, some motorists have expressed doubts about the quality of the work, citing the bulging of the RE panels as evidence of substandard construction. They believe that the BBMP should prioritise accountability and put an end to such poor work.

Motorists suggest that the BBMP should inspect all recently constructed flyovers along the Chord Road, a crucial link connecting Tumakuru Road to Mysuru Road via Rajajinagar and Vijayanagar. While vehicle users appreciate the time-saving benefits of the signal-free project, they are equally concerned about the construction's safety.

> **"We want to emphasise that despite allegations on the project's quality, there has been no compromises made**
> – Expert, IISc

City flyovers are becoming examples of substandard work, with poor quality being exposed in several recent constructions. Similar instances have been observed at the MES flyover, which has been shut down multiple times for periodic maintenance. Sumanahalli flyover had to be temporarily closed to traffic due to a significant hole earlier. According to BBMP sources, a total of 66 flyovers or grade separators have been constructed by the BBMP or BDA in Bengaluru City.

Some of these flyovers are two to three decades old, and experts have been calling for a safety audit for a long time. Experts suggest that the BBMP should conduct non-destructive tests (NDT) on the flyovers to evaluate their structural integrity under dynamic and static loads. NDT should assess deflection, oscillation, vibrations, and other relevant parameters.

Many flyovers in the city, such as the KR Puram flyover, have even seen the growth of small trees, highlighting the need for thorough inspections and maintenance.

BTM Layout's footpath encroachment struggles

Encroachment on the footpath along Mahadeshwaranagar Road in BTM Layout has created a significant inconvenience for residents and commuters in the vicinity. The locals say that the presence of numerous vehicles parked in front of shops makes it difficult for pedestrians to utilise the walkway. The absence of designated parking areas and a lack of civic awareness contribute to exacerbating the problem. "Hundreds of vehicles line the stretch in front of the shops. Both shop owners and customers park their vehicles as if the footpath is intended for parking rather than pedestrians. For example, nearly 50 vehicles occupy the 200-meter pavement between Swadistha restaurant and Beijing Bites on Mahadeshwaranagar Road. To access the footpath, pedestrians are compelled to step down onto the busy road repeatedly, posing a perilous situation for walkers," said Chiku Agarwal, a BTM Layout resident.

According to the residents, parking on the pavement often results in traffic congestion and even contributes to instances of road rage.

"We are dealing with all the issues related to parking on pedestrian walkways. Vehicles are frequently parked haphazardly, compelling pedestrians to navigate the busy road most of the time," said a resident of 2nd stage, BTM Layout.

Despite residents raising complaints with the Mico Layout police station, there is no respite in sight.

"We've been voicing our concerns on social media platforms for a while now. Regrettably, no action has been taken thus far. We contacted the Bengaluru Traffic Police through their social media page, and they informed us that the case has been handed over to Mico Layout Police Station. However, we're yet to hear from them," informed Agarwal.

Vehicles obstructing the pavement making it difficult for the pedestrians to walk through

This situation proves nightmarish for senior citizens, according to locals. Climbing the unscientifically designed high pedestrian walk while parked vehicles obstruct the pavement necessitates them to descend onto the road and then ascend again. "The issue isn't solely due to the lack of parking space; shop owners' negligence plays a role as well. I approached a business in the vicinity, urging them to request their customers not to park on the pavements, but they did not pay heed. A new establishment on the stretch has even erected a ramp with a railing, encroaching upon the pedestrian walkway. It's high time we step forward and report these issues," added another resident. — BMB

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Dusty roads
Whitefield

The road condition in the Whitefield area behind Global School is deplorable. The absence of proper road infrastructure results in a significant increase in dust levels.

Wasteful lamps
Gandhinagar

In Ward 94 Gandhinagar, street lamps equipped with sodium vapour lights are being switched on during the day, resulting in wastage of taxpayers' money.

Footpath market
Seshadripuram

The footpath near Seshadripuram College has transformed into a market, causing difficulty for pedestrians.

Python in neighbourhood

Indian Rock Python makes way to residential area in Banashankari; rescuers release snake into forest

A python approximately measuring 12 feet was spotted on Wednesday

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In a display of wildlife conservation efforts, a team of rescuers successfully saved an Indian Rock Python from a residential area in Banashankari 6th Stage. The incident was reported on Wednesday and showcased the challenges posed by urbanisation and habitat loss, as well as the dedicated efforts of wildlife rescuers to protect the reptile.

There have been multiple rescues of spectacle cobras, russell vipers, saw-scaled vipers, or rat snakes slithering into the house and hiding themselves inside car bonnets, toilets, garden areas, etc. in the backyards of the houses. However, spotting a python in a residential house seems like a rare sight. Deepak, a resident of the area, spotted the python entering a house in the vicinity and alerted the rescuers individually.

The Indian rock python is a non-venomous snake species that is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. They are also classified as near-threatened snake species by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and have experienced population decline that could be caused by poaching and habitat loss.

When rescuers Kapil Mavinkurve and Rashmi Mavinkurve from SharreHabitat received a call, they were not aware that a python had been spotted. However, they reached the spot immediately and were surprised to see the Indian Rock Python approximately measuring 12 feet in length and weighing approximately 10 kg.

Rashmi said, "Since it was a densely populated area with a high vehicular movement on the road, the python would have chosen to enter a house, finding a hiding spot. The family residing on the first floor observed the snake entering the ground floor."

Unlike most of the residents who panic while spotting the snake, the residents of Banashankari showed calmness. Following the rescue, the team reached out to the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) and received the green light to release the python into the BM Kaval Forest.

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REMAINS OF CELEBRATION

PICS: KAUSHIK JN

No sign of saplings after freedom fete

Lake activists urge BBMP to take action against those responsible for removing newly planted saplings at Basavanapura Lake

Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Students had planted the saplings at Basavanapura Lake bund two weeks ago

Students of Cambridge Institute of Technology and lake volunteers were very happy to take up the plantation of saplings on Basavanapura Lake bund two weeks ago. The students decided to adopt the saplings they planted under the lake volunteers' guidance. Their joy knew no bounds when they completed the planting of around 60 saplings on the lake bund. However, their joy was short-lived after a few residents of Basavanapura removed those saplings to make arrangements to celebrate Independence Day.

The scene on the lake bund where saplings are removed has understablly left students and volunteers who had worked hard to make the arrangements for planting those saplings feeling dejected.

"I want the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Lakes Department to act tough against those responsible for damaging the saplings planted two weeks ago. We have struggled a lot not only to plant those saplings but also to arrange water daily for those saplings" said Balaji Raghotham, a lake activist who mentored the students. He also said that he condemns people who damaged or removed the saplings.

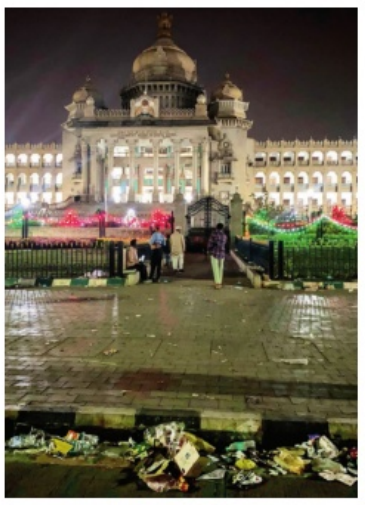
Demanding the BBMP Lakes Department to ensure the safety of the saplings, Anji Reddy of Basavanapura has said the news of damaging saplings was a big shock for him. "I came to know that some people gathered on the lake bund to celebrate Independence Day. There are a lot of vacant spaces on the lake bund. I do not know what has made them select the place where saplings are planted for celebrating Independence Day," said Anji Reddy.

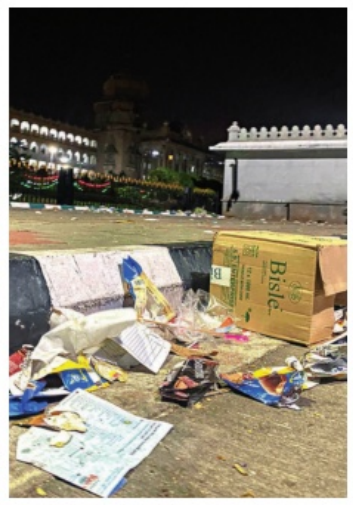
A few residents have blamed the home guards for allowing irresponsible people to use the lake bund for celebrating Independence Day. "The BBMP Lakes Department has engaged two home guards for this lake. What is the use of having the home guards if the saplings are not protected?" asked a resident, adding that there were many instances of stray cattle damaging plants on the lake bund.

Blaming the home guards for the unfortunate incident, Pavan Kumar, a resident, said the BBMP Lakes Department has failed to repair or replace broken fences to prevent stray cattle from entering the lake land. "I demand strict action on those people who damaged the saplings," Pavan Kumar said.

Suhashini Hathwar, who is associated with the Cambridge Institute of Technology, said that she is sad about the unfortunate incident that took place at Basavanapura Lake. "Our students have shown tremendous dedication not only in planting the saplings but also in nurturing them, by adopting those saplings. Our students visit the lake in the evening to find out how many saplings out of the 60 saplings are damaged or removed. We are contemplating approaching police for suitable action against those responsible for damaging the saplings," said Suhashini Hathwar.

Meanwhile, Nagaraj, the unit officer of home guards, said he was unaware of the incident. "I will visit the lake tomorrow. People responsible for damaging saplings should plant more saplings on the lake bund," said Nagaraj.





From pride to neglect: This was the scene outside Vidhana Soudha on the night of August 15. Cartons and plastic waste took the sheen off the celebrations

How to lower tomato prices? Send ideas pronto

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The recent fluctuations in tomato prices, which are now gradually stabilising, have presented numerous challenges. Some eateries chose to remove tomato-based items from their menus, while households across India faced the struggle of devising recipes without the staple ingredient. All these issues have given rise to a noble initiative, urging higher education institutions in the city to participate in a tomato challenge aimed at fostering innovative solutions.

Prof. Manish R Joshi, Secretary of the University Grants Commission (UGC), has encouraged students, faculty, teachers, professionals, start-ups, and Indian companies to engage in the grand challenge. "The last date for submission of applications is September 15, 2023. Higher Education Institutions are requested to actively participate and ensure maximum engagement," Prof. Joshi announced.

The tomato challenge was originally conceived by the Department of Consumer Affairs.

The Tomato Grand Challenge (TGC) takes the form of a hackathon, inviting participants from different backgrounds to contribute their innovative ideas across the entire tomato value chain. This initiative seeks to enhance multiple facets of tomato production, distribution, and consumption, thereby ensuring steady tomato availability at reasonable prices and equitable returns for farmers. The Department of Consumer Affairs developed TGC in collaboration with the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell.

This grand challenge encompasses diverse areas, spanning the entire tomato value chain, including insights into cropping and market trends for farmers, development of cultivars with extended shelf-life suitable for both fresh markets and processing, enhancement of transportation and storage methods, and innovative packaging solutions. To foster broad participation, the TGC offers two distinct entry tracks: one for students, research scholars, and faculty members, and another for industry professionals, start-ups, and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Winning ideas will undergo evaluation by experts, followed by prototype development and field implementation to ensure scalability and usability on a larger scale, impacting product prices. Interested participants can apply via the portal: https://doca.gov.in/gtc/index.php.

Tomatoes are cultivated across various Indian states, with maximum production in the southern and western regions contributing to over half of the country's total output. However, seasonal variations and supply chain disruptions often lead to unpredictable price fluctuations. The challenge aims to tap into the creativity of students, offering a platform to propose innovative solutions to address these challenges.

Eggs and bananas for govt school students from Aug 18

Scheme to be extended to up Class 10; will be inaugurated in Mandya

The Karnataka Minister for Education Madhu Bangarappa on Wednesday said that the government will distribute eggs and bananas twice in a week to the students studying in government schools in the state.

Talking to reporters, Minister Madhu Bangarappa said, the scheme of distribution of eggs and bananas to students will commence from August 18 and it is going to be inaugurated in Mandya district first.

"Earlier, it was planned to extend the scheme till 8th standard. Now, a decision has been taken to extend the scheme up to 10th standard. The scheme is being implemented to ensure providing nutritious food to the students," he explained. He said that the eggs and bananas will be given along with the mid-day meal. Earlier, the Karnataka government's decision had triggered a controversy in the state. The decision had angered a section of the society who said eggs shouldn't be distributed in school premises as it encourages discrimination among school going children.

Eggs were stopped in mid-day meals, triggering a controversy

Another section supporting the eggs to children claimed this project shouldn't stop as protein supplement is needed by the students. They maintained children who have better access to better nutrition have better education outcomes.

The BJP-JD (S) coalition government headed by HD Kumaraswamy had rolled back its project of distributing eggs to school children in 2007 succumbing to pressure from religious groups. But, the previous BJP government implemented the scheme. Then Education Minister BC Nagesh said there were people opposing and vouching for it.

"There is no substitution for egg as such. There is soya bean, but children won't eat it. The project has been implemented with an intention to address malnutrition among children," he had stated. – IANS

IN BRIEF

CSTEP founder no more

Dr VS Arunachalam, founder and chairman of the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), passed away on Wednesday. His distinguished career spanned across Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, National Aeronautical Laboratory, and Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory. Dr Arunachalam worked as Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development (Ministry of Defence, Government of India). He was also the Director General of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and served as the Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri, Government of India, from 1982 to 1992. In 2005, he founded CSTEP, a not-for-profit think-tank, with a mission to enrich policymaking with innovative approaches using science for a sustainable and inclusive society. – BMB

No cheers: Excise Dept seizes beer worth ₹25 cr after tests find it unfit for consumption

The State Excise Department has seized two leading brands of beer worth Rs 25 crore after a chemical test report found it "unfit for human consumption", a senior official said on Wednesday.

Apart from registering a case, the Department has initiated steps to destroy the stock, Deputy Commissioner of Excise, Mysuru Rural, A Ravishankar told reporters here.

According to him, the Excise Superintendent of Nanjangud lodged a complaint with his office on July 28 stating that Kingfisher Strong Beer and Kingfisher Ultra Lager Beer with batch number 7C and 7E, which were manufactured at the Nanjangud unit of United Breweries Limited on July 17, 2023, have sediments and, hence, they have been sent for chemical examination.

The Excise Superintendent requested that till the time the lab test report comes, the stock should be seized, the officer said. Ravishankar said he wrote to the Deputy Commissioners of the districts and Excise Deputy Commissioners to hold back the stock with the two batch numbers. The samples were also sent to a lab for chemical examination. "We received a report from the chemical examiner on August 2 saying that both the brands (with batch No. 7C and 7E) were unfit for human consumption. Then, we wrote to the DCs and Excise DCs to take steps, which means those stocks should be destroyed," the Excise Deputy Commissioner said. – PTI

Free bus travel for women to continue: Rumours trashed

Karnataka Transport Minister R Ramalinga Reddy on Wednesday asserted that Shakti scheme offering free ride in non-luxury government buses to women in the state will continue for the next 10 years.

His clarification comes following some rumours being spread in the social media against the scheme. "I would like to tell the people of Karnataka, especially the school children, that some people are spreading lies that one of the poll guarantees 'Shakti' scheme will be stopped. Trusting the rumours, some people went to ask for a bus pass," Reddy told reporters here.

He said, "Shakti scheme is going to remain for at least 10 years. There is no need for women to buy passes..." As Chief Minister Siddaramaiah held a meeting with the ministers and MLAs, reporters asked Reddy whether there was any discussion on the stalled municipal level public works. He said Special Investigation Teams are probing the works taken in the past (during the BJP tenure). – PTI

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	6. English	For training students on Communicative English	College Scale
Placement Officer	TPO (Training & Placement Officer)	Any Degree	1.25 L
Physical Edu. Director	Physical Education	M.P.Ed	25K to 30K
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> **Doddakallasandra, Subbarayakere, and Chunchaghatta Lakes are some examples whereby rejuvenation was initiated before constructing boundaries. As a result, even after rejuvenation, disputes on the land areas have made these water bodies vulnerable**
> — Raghavendra B Pachhapur, a lake activist

Use a little ecologic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reduce pollution, improve the lake water quality and provide habitat, which supports maximum aquatic biodiversity, they said.

"Our lakes are under stress due to mismanagement with uncoordinated and fragmented governance. This is evident from the sustained inflow of untreated or partially treated sewage, untreated industrial effluents, dumping of municipal solid waste including construction and demolition waste, and encroachment of stormwater drains and lake beds. Thus, the action plan must set the rejuvenation protocol that ensures enhancement of ecological integrity of the water bodies," said Dr TV Ramachandra, Center of Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

Experts say the action plan must define the functionality and purpose of every lake before sketching a detailed project report on the rejuvenation process. Moreover, Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority (KTCDA) must be strengthened with inclusion of limnologists, hydrogeologists, toxicologists, and environmental experts.

"Lakes in urban, peri-urban, and rural settings are of environmental, social, and economic significance and act as drinking water sources, groundwater recharge systems, flood mitigation systems, biodiversity spots, and livelihood. The functionality and purpose of every waterbody have to be redefined. Moreover, KTCDA must take up the role of monitoring and regulatory body for every revival project. The agency should be strengthened in capacity too," said V Ram Prasad, a lake activist.

Plug gaps first

Lake activists opine while a budget for an action plan on the revival of lakes is appreciated, the need of the hour is to plug the gaps in the current lake governance structure, whereby maintenance is currently limited to sweeping walking paths. Experts say lake maintenance includes cleaning sewage diversion channels, controlling macrophyte growth, collecting and disposing of solid waste, and regular monitoring of inlets and streams for entry of untreated water. However, none of these aspects are currently covered.

"To ensure accountability, every lake should have an information board with contacts of officials responsible for lake maintenance. Moreover, while Justice NK Patil's committee very clearly recommended that the first step in lake rejuvenation should be fixing the boundaries, it is not being followed. Doddakallasandra, Subbarayakere, and Chunchaghatta Lakes are some examples whereby rejuvenation was initiated before constructing boundaries. As a result, even after rejuvenation, disputes on the land areas have made these water bodies vulnerable," said Raghavendra B Pachhapur, a lake activist.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Aqeem Shariff S/o Yacoob Shariff, R/o No. #687, 14th cross, 29th main, BTM layout, 2nd stage, Bangalore 560076, have changed my name to Y Aqeem Shariff vide affidavit dt: 14/08/2023 sworn before advocate & Notary Meer Hassan Bangalore.

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I, M.Sowmya W/o M.B. Venkatesha R/a Maraliga village & Post, Koppa Hobli, Maddur Taluk, Mandya District, Karnataka. My name has correctly entered in all my documents as M. Sowmya, but due to in advertence my name entered as Hemalatha M instead of Sowmya M in my all school documents only. I declare that M. Sowmya & Hemalatha M both the names belongs to me and both the names are one and the same person. Affidavit dtd 27-05-23. sworn before notary T.N Bharathi.

I, SUSAN PAUL, D/o LOURD SWAMY PAUL, resident at C-909, Salarpuria Sattva Aspire, Hennur Main Road, Chikkagubbi Village, Bengaluru-562149, have changed my name as AGATHA SUSAN PAUL vide affidavit dated 11.08.2023 sworn before notary Y.V. Shankar, Bengaluru.

I, Mohiddin Touseef Ahmed, S/O Abdul Khader and zameera bi residing at # 2214, Golden lake view Apartment,4th Cross Arjun Road, NGr layout Roopena Agrahara Bommanahalli Bangalore 560068,have changed my name to Mohiddin Tauseef Ahmed for all future purposes.

I, NANDINI REDDY K H, W/o Bhushan Reddy, R/at of No.299, Sri Vari Brundavana, 5th Cross, D-Group, 5th Block near, Govindappa layout, Lingadeeranhalli, Bangalore-560091, have changed my name to NANDINI REDDY, affidavit dated 14.08.2023 before notary R. Shivanna Chari Bangalore,

I Shaniba Syed Kunhammad W/O, Syed Kunchahmed R/o No.819, Moideen Compound Oorgaumpet, k.g.f- 563121 have changed my name to Shaniba.

I, Pradyoth Raj Varma s/o Mohan Maipady Krishna Varma R/o 15, 17th A main, 1st A cross, JP nagar, 2nd phase, Bengaluru 560078 have changed my name to Pradyoth Raj Maipady Varma affidavit Dt.16/08/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Anzar Ahammed Syed S/O, Syed Kunchahmed R/o No.819, Moideen Compound, Oorgaumpet, K.g.f.-563121 have changed my name to Ansar Ahmed S .

I, Shylaja Ramakrishna W/o.Ramakrishna Venkatesh R/o 59, 3rd cross, NRI layout, Kalkere, Rm nagar, B'luru-560016 have changed my name to SHYALAJA RAMAKRISHNA affidavit Dt.16/08/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, SUHAIL MANDAL, R/at No.11, 9th Cross, 5th Main, Krishnappa Block, Ganganagar Bangalore-560032 have changed my name to SUHAIL MONDAL, vide affidavit dated 14.08.2023 sworn before notary V.Rajashekhara, Bangalore.

I, SAHIDUL MONDAL, R/at No.11, 9th Cross, 5th Main, Krishnappa Block, Ganganagar Bangalore-560032 have changed my name to SOHIDUL MONDAL vide affidavit dated 04.08.2023 sworn before notary R.Basavaraja, Bangalore.

I, Sandhya P Varma w/o Pradyoth Raj Maipady Varma R/o 15, 17th A main, 1st A cross, JP nagar, 2nd phase, Bengaluru 560078 have changed my name to Sandhya Pradyoth Varma, affidavit Dt.16/08/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Shruthi K P W/o Shivaprakash Y R/o B1502, Nitesh Caesars palace, BCMC layout, Raghuvanahalli, Bangalore 560062 have changed my name to Shruthi Shivaprakash for all purposes

I Mohammed Kasapady Abdulla S/O, Fatheema R/o No 68 , Sapthagiri Layout Doddathoguru Vilage Electronic City Post Bengaluru 60100 have changed my name to Mahammed Kaspady Abdulla.

I, Chennuru Naresh Reddy S/o Chennuru Srihari Reddy 1-61, Punabaka, Pellakuru, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh-524129 have changed my name to Naresh C H for all purpose

I, Raghavendra. M R/o No. 812, 63rd Cross, Kumarswamy Layout, Bangalore - 560 078 have changed my minor son's name from Karnaa. R to Mourya. R.

I, Ramakrishna S/o.Venkatesh R/o No.59, 3rd cross, NRI layout, Kalkere, Ramamurthy nagar, Bengaluru 560016 have changed my name to RAMAKRISHNA VENKATESH affidavit Dt.16/08/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Diwakar R/o 63, Sathyanarayana Temple Street, Ulsoor, B'luru – 560008 Have Changed My Name To Diwakar Parasuraman Affidavit Dt.16/08/2023 Notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Smrithi D/O, Simmi Shibu R/o #b-307 Ashwini Flora Apartment, Next To Soorya Shine Apartment, Ashirwad Colony, Lakshmiah Layout, Horamavu-43 have changed my name to Smrithi Simmi

I Syed Kunchammad S/O, Syed Mohammad R/o No.819, moideen Compound, Oorgaumpet, k.g.f.-563121 have changed my name to Syed Kunchahmed .

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All you need to know about...

Wristband germs

Cleaned it today?
Researchers from Florida Atlantic University's Charles E. Schmidt College of Science examined the risk of pathogenic bacteria harbouring in wristbands of various textures. Despite the fact that wristbands are worn on a daily basis, routine cleaning is frequently overlooked or simply ignored.

Material no matter
"Plastic and rubber wristbands may provide a more appropriate environment for bacterial growth as porous and static surfaces tend to attract and be colonized by bacteria," said Nwadiuto Esiobu, senior author and a professor at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science.

Wash it after gym!
The gym-goer showed the highest staphylococcal counts, which emphasises the need to sanitise bands after rigorous activity.

Sanitiser to be used
Findings showed that Lysol™ Disinfectant Spray and 70% ethanol were highly effective with 99.99% kill rate within 30 seconds. Apple cider vinegar was not as potent and required a full two-minute exposure to reduce bacterial counts. —IANS

GREY AREA

Reduced grey matter in brain linked to teen smoking, nicotine addiction

Levels of grey matter in two parts of the brain may be linked to a desire to start smoking during adolescence and the strengthening of nicotine addiction, a new study has revealed.

A team of scientists, led by the universities of Cambridge and Warwick in the UK and Fudan University in China, analysed brain imaging and behavioural data of over 800 young people at the ages of 14, 19 and 23.

They found that, on average, teenagers who started smoking by 14 years of age had markedly less grey matter in a section of the left frontal lobe linked to decision-making and rule-breaking.

Low grey matter volume in the left side of the ventromedial prefrontal cortex may be an "inheritable biomarker" for nicotine addiction.

In addition, the scientists found that the opposite, right part of the same brain region also had less grey matter in smokers.

Importantly, loss of grey matter in the right prefrontal cortex appears to speed up only after someone has started smoking. This region is linked to the seeking of sensations, according to the study that appeared in Nature Communications.

The team argued that less grey matter in the left forebrain could lower cognitive function and lead to "disinhibition" -- impulsive, rule-breaking behaviour arising from a limited ability to consider consequences. This may increase the chances of smoking at a young age.

"The initiation of a smoking habit is most likely to occur during adolescence. Any way of detecting an increased chance of this, so we can target interventions, could help save millions of lives," said Professor Trevor Robbins, co-senior author from Cambridge's Department of Psychology.

Annual deaths from cigarettes are expected to reach eight million worldwide by the end of the decade.

"In our study, reduced grey matter in the left prefrontal cortex is associated with increased rule-breaking behaviour as well as early smoking experiences. It could be that this rule-breaking leads to the violation of anti-smoking norms," said Robbins.

> **Low grey matter volume in the left side of the ventromedial prefrontal cortex may be an inheritable biomarker for nicotine addiction**

Professor Barbara Sahakian from Cambridge's Department of Psychiatry said: "The ventromedial prefrontal cortex is a key region for dopamine, the brain's pleasure chemical. As well as a role in rewarding experiences, dopamine has long been believed to affect self-control".

"Less grey matter across this brain region may limit cognitive function, leading to lower self-control and a propensity for risky behaviour, such as smoking."

The scientists also looked at the right ventromedial prefrontal cortex. Grey matter loss occurs in everyone as they age.

However, those who smoked from age 14 as well as those smoking from age 19 both ended up with excessive grey matter loss in the right frontal lobe.

Data at age 23 showed that grey matter volume in the right prefrontal cortex shrank at a faster pace in those who continued to smoke, suggesting an influence of smoking itself on prefrontal function, the findings showed. —IANS

MIRRORLIGHTS

Pig kidney functioning in human for more than a month

A genetically-modified pig kidney is continuing to function well a record-breaking 32 days after it was transplanted into a brain dead patient, a medical center said on Wednesday.

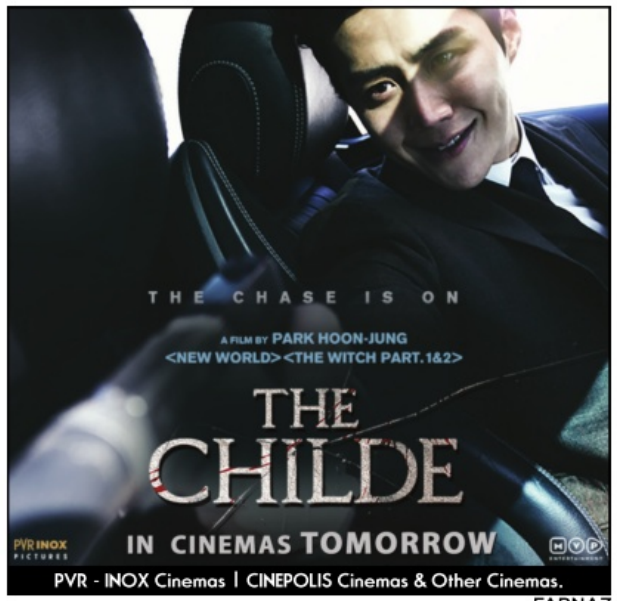
The experimental procedure is part of a growing field of research aimed at advancing cross-species organ donation and thus reducing transplant waiting lists.

"This work demonstrates a pig kidney -- with only one genetic modification and without experimental medications or devices -- can replace the function of a human kidney for at least 32 days without being rejected," said surgeon Robert Montgomery, director of the NYU Langone Transplant Institute. Montgomery carried out the first genetically modified pig kidney transplant to a human in September 2021, followed by a similar procedure in November 2021. There have since been a handful of other cases.

Dr. Robert Montgomery, director of NYU Langone's transplant institute, prepares a pig kidney for transplant into a brain-dead man in New York on July 14, 2023

While previous such transplants have involved up to 10 modifications, the latest experiment involved just one: the gene involved in the so-called "hyperacute rejection," which would otherwise occur within minutes of an animal organ being connected to a human circulatory system.

By "knocking out" the gene responsible for a biomolecule called alpha-gal -- which otherwise would be a prime target for human antibodies -- the NYU Langone team were able to stop immediate rejection. "We've now gathered more evidence to show that, at least in kidneys, just eliminating the gene that triggers a hyperacute rejection may be enough along with clinically approved immunosuppressive drugs to successfully manage the transplant in a human," said Montgomery. They also embedded the pig's thymus gland -- responsible for educating the immune system -- in the kidney's outer layer, to prevent a delayed host rejection. —AFP



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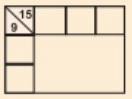
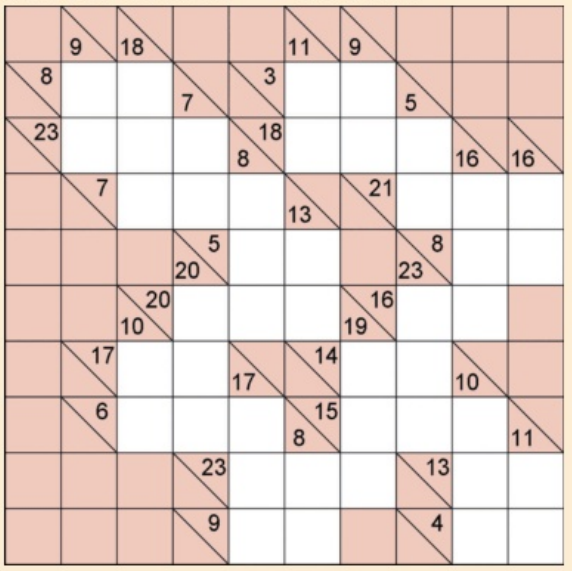
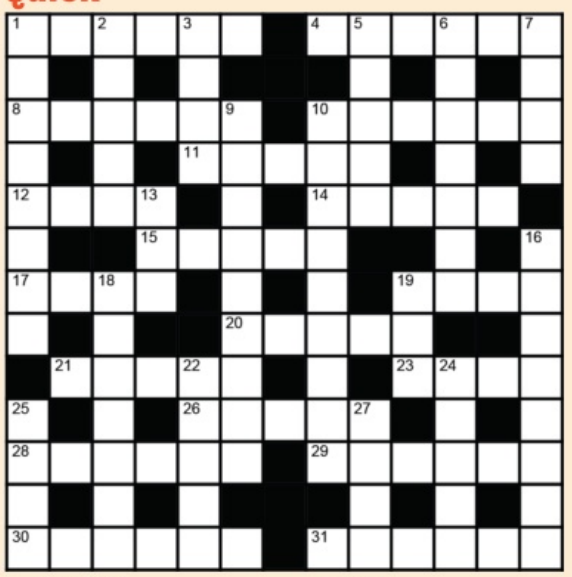


The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Photographic apparatus (6)
4 College grounds (6)
8 Small computer (6)
10 Study of plants (6)
11 Deception to cheat you (5)
12 Article (4)
14 Conical tent (5)
15 Inversion (5)
17 Global Air Traffic Mgmnt. (4)
19 Ballet skirt (4)
20 Unusual item (5)
21 Marshy tributary (5)
23 __ __ even keel : cruising serenely? (2,2)
26 Motionless (5)
28 Constabulary (6)
29 Pulled or tugged sharply (6)
30 Additional clauses (6)
31 Recondition, mend or overhaul (6)

DOWN

1 Professions, trades or vocations? (8)
2 Canadian symbol ___ leaf (5)
3 Hit the ___ : be very angry? (4)
5 Battery terminal (5)
6 Tableland (7)
7 Speaks or utters (4)
9 Seek redress by legal proceedings (9)
10 Bannerghatta National Park is home to India's first ____ enclosure (9)
13 Silent (3)
16 Appeared or emerged, in a way? (6,2)
18 Lagged behind, pursued or chased (7)
19 In addition (3)
22 Academy award (5)
24 Finnish cellphone manufacturer (5)
25 Goad a horse (4)
27 Fine open fabric (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: M EQUALS G

TZH XMA EG ZEQA ASAFNYCE-VM AZGA. YT JXQA X GWPPAGG TL EY, NTW'SA MTY YT GYXFY NTWVM.

Linemaro

I want everyone to meet you. You're my favourite person of all time

Mindchow

Friendship with oneself is important, without it one cannot be friends with anyone else in the world

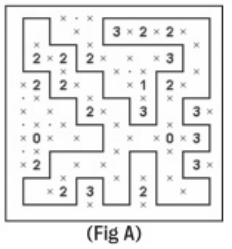
Joke of the day

Teacher: Why are you talking during my lesson? Student: Why are you teaching during my conversation?

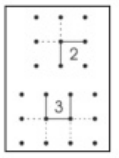
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

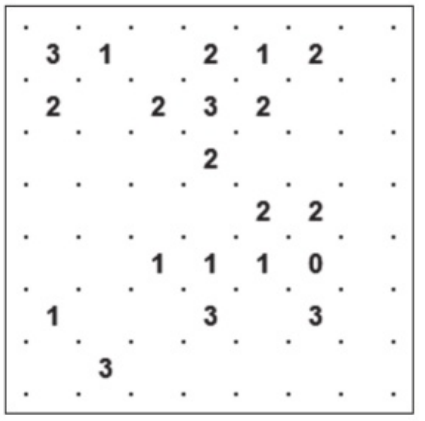


(Fig B) Not Allowed

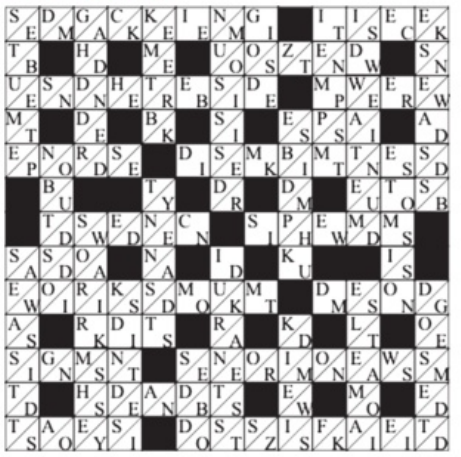
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



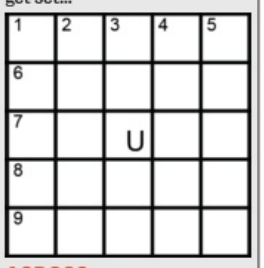
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

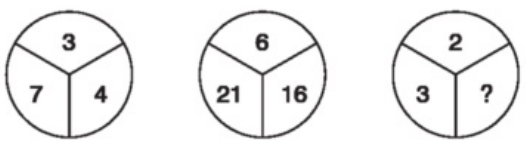
1 Am Aga; 6 Galan; 7 Strut; 8 A be as; 9 Sores

DOWN

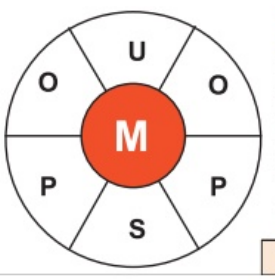
1 Tra-la; 2 Or bag; 3 As Aug; 4 Ems as; 5 Neats

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; 02 Good; 03 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		7		4		2		
1	9						8	4
		2	1		8	3		
8			6		7			9
	1						2	
3			8		2			6
		1	9		4	8		
4	3						7	1
		8		3		9		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

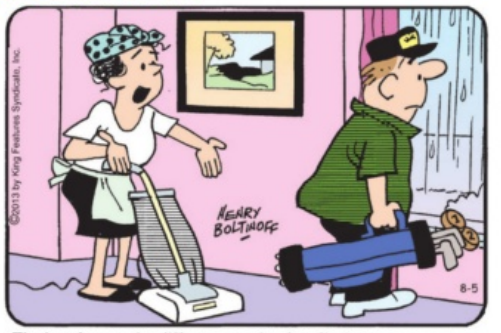
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy □□□□□□□ = 27
4 7 8 8

Medium □□□□□□□ = 16
4 5 5 9

Hard □□□□□□□ = 4
2 3 8 3

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

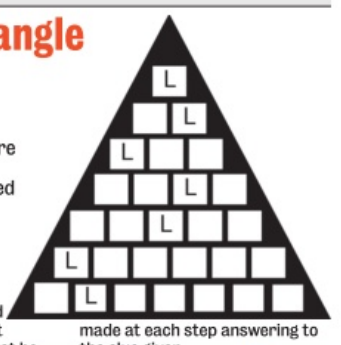
Differences: 1. Arm is raised 2. Bow is missing 3. Cord is moved 4. Golf bag is smaller 5. Bush is missing 6. Picture is reversed

Riddler

Can you figure out these common expressions?
1. The second letter of the alphabet + the opposite of more + a female sheep
2. The 16th letter of the alphabet + to charter
3. A stinging insect + to dig ore out of the ground
4. Former + sticks used for pool + not you

Alpha triangle

1 Learner's plate
2 Spanish article
3 Court call
4 Pool table cover
5 Dutch earthenware
6 Hurled high
7 Openly disregarded



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

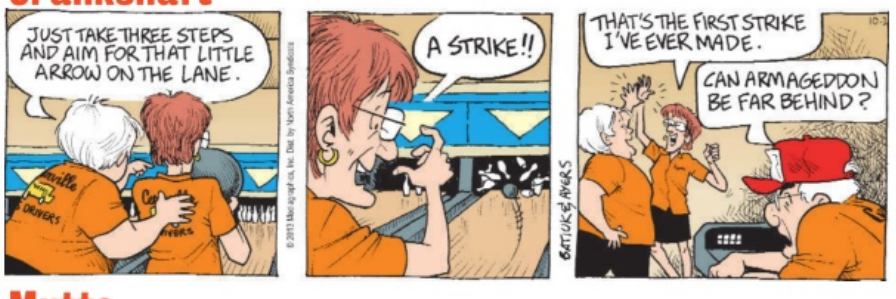
Diamond Lil

I WENT TO SENIORS BALANCE CLASS TODAY
SENIORS BALANCE CLASS? WHAT'S THAT LIKE?
EVERYONE TRIES TO PUT ON A PAIR OF UNDERWEAR WITHOUT TIPPING OVER
©2022 creators.com 9/5
www.creators.com
Bentkey

Hart of the city

SEE, WE LOWER OURSELVES DOWN THE LAUNDRY CHUTE AND INTO THE BASEMENT USING THIS KNOTTED ROPE!
... AND THEN WE CAN USE IT LATER TO CLIMB BACK UP!
HEH HEH HEH...
STAY TOONED!
8-10
© 2013 Mark Tatulli/Dist. by Universal Uclick
www.gocomics.com

Crankshaft


JUST TAKE THREE STEPS AND AIM FOR THAT LITTLE ARROW ON THE LANE.
A STRIKE!!
THAT'S THE FIRST STRIKE I'VE EVER MADE.
CAN ARMAGEDDON BE FAR BEHIND?
10-2
DRIVERS
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BATTLE OF AYERS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may experience happiness and have the chance to spread joy around you. You might feel a sense of harmony in your domestic life and enjoy romantic moments with your spouse. Your family's support could aid you in making important decisions on the professional front. You can anticipate the possibility of new ventures or partnerships emerging in your business or work endeavours.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you might find yourself more spiritual, with your destiny aligning favourably. Anticipate positive returns from your previous investments. Strengthened rapport with your boss could pave the way for potential promotions. You may also hear some good news from your sibling. You are advised to exercise caution in your expressions, particularly in matters of love and personal life. Harsh speech could potentially impact your relationships adversely.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you might find yourself occupied with social gatherings, providing opportunities to reconnect with old friends. Your network could strengthen, potentially yielding benefits in your upcoming work endeavours. Individuals involved in fields such as export, import, glamour, and artifacts may perform better. Students are likely to excel in their studies today. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you might experience sleeplessness, potentially leading to a sense of laziness. This could also trigger carelessness, exerting a negative impact on your inner strength. There's a likelihood that you might feel nervous at work, which may affect your ongoing projects. It's advisable to refrain from investing in stagnant or unproductive areas. You are advised to avoid consuming spicy food as it could lead to digestive discomfort. You should avoid rushed driving.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you might find yourself engrossed in family matters, possibly addressing significant issues on the domestic front. It's recommended to steer clear of engaging in arguments regarding personal matters. Your arrogance could potentially disrupt domestic harmony. However, as the evening progresses, the situation may stabilise. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in the business.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, the positive influence of the moon may make you happy. Utilise your patience at every stage you encounter. Your job performance is expected to be commendable, potentially leading to incentives and rewards. Health concerns pertaining to family members are likely to be resolved. Job seekers are likely to get suitable jobs in their domain. Love birds may enjoy their dating.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may have fixed results. It is advised not to expect more from anyone around you, it may make you disappointed. Today you may have self-exploration and self-analysis, which may allow filtering yourself. After the filtration process, you may feel confident and will be able to ready to accept the challenges around you.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, feelings of dissatisfaction could lead to you feeling upset. You might struggle to find enjoyment in even solitary moments. You may lack patience which may negatively influence your work approach, potentially resulting in careless errors. You may also visit some religious places for seeking peace. you are advised to practice meditation or yoga.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you are blessed by the moon, your destiny is likely with you. Today you may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success. Your colleagues may help you. You are likely to go for short work-related travel. Some good news may come from your sibling.

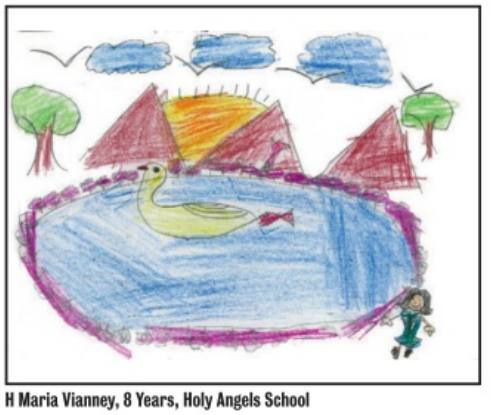
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, previously chaotic situations have been brought under control, leading to a sense of peace in your mind. Achieving a balance between expenses and earnings is within your reach, potentially enhancing your financial well-being. You are advised to avoid too much travelling or overworking, it may affect your health. Students can start planning for their future. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you can expect strong support from your family members. There might also be opportunities for expansion within your family business, potentially leading to an enhanced social status for your family. Additionally, you could be considering expanding your family through the addition of a new child, a decision that could foster stronger bonds between family members. Students may apply for some scholarships for higher studies.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you might encounter health issues due to the mental fatigue caused by last night's sleeplessness. Consequently, you could find it challenging to maintain focus on your daily tasks. Feelings of lethargy could impact your ability to fulfill commitments. To ensure your well-being, you should refrain from rushed driving and adventurous outings. Furthermore, it's recommended to avoid spending money on items of little value.

KIDZONE

Kavya S, 8 Years, Holy Angels Higher Primary School



H Maria Vianney, 8 Years, Holy Angels School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

$3^{3^{3^{3^{x}}}} = 3^{9}$

$3^{3^{3^{x}}} = 3^{3}$

$3^{x} = 1$

$x = 0$

QUOTE UNCODE

Old age is like everything else. To make a success of it, you've got to start young.

A	G	A	M	A										
L	A	G	A	N	A									
T	R	U	S	T										
I	N	S	T	E	E	R	I	N	E	S	S			
A	K	I	T	R	K	L	E	O						
W	O	R	K	S	O	U	T	M	E	N	D			
A	D	O	A	D	U	I								
	T	W	E	E	N	S	H	E	D	S				
		U		Y	D	D		E	O	S				
P	O	D	S	D	E	M	I	T	T	E	D			
M	E	B	S	S	P	A	A							
U	N	D	E	R	B	I	D	M	E	R	E			
S	A	V	Y	O	S	S	I	F	I	E	D			
T	H	E	A	D	S	W	M	E						
A	B	A	S	E										
R	O	S	E	S										

FAST FIVE

1. Bless you,
2. Please,
3. Be Mine,
4. Excuse Me

RIDDLER

STRIKE OUT

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE

BULL'S EYE

pomp, POMPOUS,
pump

SUDOKU

6	8	7	3	4	9	2	1	5
1	9	3	7	2	5	6	8	4
5	4	2	1	6	8	3	9	7
8	2	5	6	1	7	4	3	9
9	1	6	4	5	3	7	2	8
3	7	4	8	9	2	1	5	6
2	5	1	9	7	4	8	6	3
4	3	9	2	8	6	5	7	1
7	6	8	5	3	1	9	4	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE

L, El, Let, Felt,
Delft, Lofted,
Flouted.

GO FIGURE

Easy
4 + 8 + 7 + 8 = 27
Medium
9 – 5 x 5 – 4 = 16
Hard
2 – 3 – 3 + 8 = 4

LOOP

KAKURO

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Birthday ride— Jennifer Lopez wished happy birthday to husband Ben Affleck on his 51st birthday by posting a cute clip of themselves on a car ride wearing white tees and singing along with Sam Cooke's song (What A Wonderful World)

WORKING RELATIONSHIP

What Ananya thinks about working with rumoured beau Aditya

Ananya Panday garnered a lot of attention recently for her rumoured relationship with Aditya Roy Kapur. The actress also went on an exotic holiday with the actor.

During a promotional interview for her upcoming film, 'Dream Girl 2', Ananya was asked if she had any plans to work with Aditya Roy Kapur and Kartik Aaryan. Replying to the same, she told News18 that she will work with them when there is a good enough script to work with both of them. The actress said as she has already worked with Kartik in 'Pati Patni Aur Woh', she said they could come together for the sequel someday.

As for Aditya, Ananya said that she has never worked with the 'Aashiqui 2' star and feels that it would be good fun to work with him. In the same interview, she was also asked about her marriage plans, to which she added that she is too young for that. Although she would love to get hitched someday but not soon. The rumours around Ananya and Aditya's relationship first started during the last season of Koffee with Karan when implied that the duo spent a lot of time with each other during Karan's 50th birthday party. Ananya is currently promoting 'Dream Girl 2' with her costar Ayushmann Khurrana. The film will hit the theatres on August 25, 2023.

— ETimes

Running date

Actress Jennifer Garner and her boyfriend John Miller, who have been dating on-and-off since 2018, have been spotted on a running date in a rare sighting together. The actress and Miller were seen out and about for a morning jog in Brentwood, California. Appearing in good spirits, John flashed a smile during the outdoor workout. The couple went colour-coordinating in matching dark athletic clothing. Her boyfriend rocked a black T-shirt with dark grey pants, blue trainers and a light-coloured baseball cap. Both of them had their phones in their hands. Following their latest sighting, a source tells ET that Jennifer and John are "doing great" together. "Jen is a fantastic mom and she is always trying to stay positive and put her family first," the source says of the actress' daughters Violet, 17, Seraphina, 14, and son Samuel, 11, whom she shares with her ex Ben Affleck.

In January, Ben was seen having a friendly conversation with John outside Jennifer's home. "Ben is very supportive of Jennifer dating and just wants her to be happy. It's important for Ben to have a solid relationship with John," a source said of Ben's reaction to Jennifer's relationship. "Ben is so laid-back and gets along with everyone, and John is one of those too." "John's a cool guy, down to earth, and likes Ben too," the source added.

—ETimes

Birthday boy

The Nawab of Pataudi, Saif Ali Khan, turned a year older today and just like every other year, he kept the celebrations low-key, just spending time with his family. While the actor was home with Kareena Kapoor and Taimur and Jeh, his kids from his first wife Amrita Singh, Sara and Ibrahim were spotted arriving for his birthday at his place with balloons and cake. Saif and Sara have recently worked together on a couple of ad films and Ibrahim is all set to make his debut under Karan Johar's production house, shooting for which has been completed. He will be sharing screen space with Kajol. On the occasion of Saif's birthday, his wife Kareena Kapoor Khan posted an unseen poolside photo of the duo and wrote, "He chose the picture I could post on

Instagram even though he's in front of me smiling away and why not? it's his birthday May you always be this relaxed my jaaaan Happy Birthday to my Ultimate Lover There truly is no one like you Kind, Generous, and Crazy ok I can go on writing all day but gotta go eat Cake (sic)." Saif was last seen in Adipurush. He will next be seen with Jr NTR's Devara.

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Murder mystery

The silver screen welcomes a new directorial sensation as TV serial heartthrob Sindhu Gowda takes her dynamic talents behind the camera for her directorial debut with the film "Apple Cut." Sindhu Gowda is ready to rewrite the rules as she dons the director's hat, following in the footsteps of her esteemed late father, director Raj Kishore.

"I used to accompany my father to shooting locations, which ignited my passion for movies. 'Apple Cut' revolves around a murder mystery. I met Shilpa Prasanna, the movie's financier, at a park. Later, I shared the script of 'Apple Cut' with Shilpa, and she enthusiastically came on board as the producer. The movie features five youthful characters," said Sindhu. At a special event on Monday, audience got an exclusive sneak peek into the film. Lead actor Surya Gowda, portraying the role of a Professor of Anthropology, said he was excited to play the lead role for the first time.

Action 'Bheema'

Get ready for an electrifying Diwali treat as the much-anticipated 'Bheema' is all set to dazzle the silver screen this November. The man of the hour, Vijaya Kumar, popularly known as Duniya Vijay, not only leads the charge on-screen but also steps into the director's chair for this action-packed spectacle.

The film's poster offers an appealing glimpse into the world of Bheema. It appears to revolve around a charismatic hero who's an underworld don, fiercely determined to seize control over the city. Fans of Duniya Vijay can anticipate a gripping narrative brimming with action sequences.

With great expectations, the Bheema team is gearing up to unveil the release date next week. Promotional activities are also slated to kick off shortly, promising an immersive engagement with the movie's storyline.

Joining Vijay on this ride is a stellar cast including Rangayana Raghu, Achyuth Kumar, Sudhi Cockroach, Kalyani, Ashwini, and Priya Sharamarshana. The cinematic experience is elevated with Charan Raj's soul-stirring music and Masti's punchy dialogues. The action-packed sequences have been crafted by Chethan D'souza, Vinod, and Gautham.